

## Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /074 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:STESCUDERO/AF/S:DKEOGH:SJR  
APPROVED BY IO:GBHELMAN  
IO/UNP:RLBARRY

-----098707 030458Z /11

O 030319Z MAR 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 054719

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PDEV, SF, RH

SUBJECT: RHODESIA IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL

1. UK WASHINGTON EMBOFF (SQUIRE) MET WITH DEPARTMENT  
OFFICERS (AF AND IO) MARCH 2 TO REVIEW TACTICS FOR  
SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON RHODESIA. SQUIRE SAID THAT:

--UK WOULD PREFER TO AVOID RHODESIA DEBATE BUT BELIEVES  
THAT WOULD BE NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE. UK THEREFORE SEES  
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ADVANTAGE IN WIDER DEBATE ON ALL ASPECTS OF RHODESIAN  
QUESTION, NOT MERELY INTERNAL SETTLEMENT.

--UK SEES SC SESSION AS OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE ALL RHODESIAN  
NATIONALIST PARTIES STATE THEIR CASE, WHICH WOULD BRING  
TO PUBLIC NOTICE FULL COMPLEXITY OF RHODESIA SITUATION.

--UK WOULD SEEK TO COMMUNICATE BASIC PRINCIPLE THAT, TO BE ACCEPTABLE, ANY SETTLEMENT MUST MEET TEST OF WHETHER IT ALLOWS PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE A FREE CHOICE CONCERNING THEIR POLITICAL FUTURE.

--UK WOULD BE WILLING TO TABLE REVISED AND EXPANDED PROPOSALS FOR SETTLEMENT (SO-CALLED MARK II VERSION OF WHITE PAPER.)

-- SHOULD AFRICAN RESOLUTION COME TO A VOTE, UK WOULD PROBABLY ABSTAIN DESPITE DISSATISFACTION WITH OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS THREE AND FOUR IN ORDER TO DENY SMITH THE SATISFACTION OF AN OPEN BREAK BETWEEN UK AND AFRICANS.

-- THE UK ALSO SUGGESTED PRESENTATION OF A COUNTER-RESOLUTION ALREADY BEING PREPARED IN LONDON AND WHICH WOULD EMBODY FUNDAMENTAL UK-US PRINCIPLES FOR SETTLEMENT, AND PROVISION OF A REPORT ON UK-US EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT A SETTLEMENT SINCE SEPTEMBER 1977, WHEN THE COUNCIL WAS LAST INFORMED.

-- WHILE THE UK WOULD LIKE ALL PARTIES TO THE RHODESIA QUESTION TO ATTEND, THEY WOULD EXCLUDE IAN SMITH ON GROUNDS THAT THE UK REMAINS THE LEGAL ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY FOR RHODESIA. THE BRITISH WOULD ALSO LIKE TO DENY SMITH A FORUM FOR PUBLICITY.  
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2. WE POINTED OUT THAT PRESENCE OF FOUR NATIONALIST LEADERS INEVITABLY WILL SUGGEST DESIRABILITY OF PROXIMITY TALKS DESIGNED TO ADVANCE PROCESS OF RECONCILING THEIR DIFFERENCES. AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS IN ADDITION TO GARBA ALSO MAY DECIDE TO SHOW UP. ALL OF THIS SUGGESTS THE DESIRABILITY OF ADVANCE CONSULTATIONS IN NEW YORK WITH THE NIGERIANS AND THE FRONT LINE AFRICAN STATES. AN INFORMAL CAUCUS COULD SERVE TO BROADEN THE DISCUSSION AWAY FROM THE AFRICAN RESOLUTION. WE POINTED OUT THAT OUR RESPECTIVE DELEGATIONS IN NEW YORK WERE IN THE BEST POSITION TO COMPARE INFORMATION AND DEVELOP TACTICS TO DEAL WITH THE SITUATION. CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014